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James Madison
James Monroe

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James Madison
James Monroe

<NO.16M>RNS 22+00 NNNNN-07HU 052

LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES

Rita and Debbie on Bank of Lake in New Orleans in the 70s. This image is part of the Herstory slide show.

HERSTORY OF THE ARCHIVES

The Lesbian Herstory Archives, the largest and oldest Lesbian archive in the world, began in 1973 as an outgrowth of a Lesbian consciousness-raising group at the Gay Academic Union in New York City. The founders were concerned about the failure of mainstream publishers, libraries, archives, and research institutions to value Lesbian culture. It became obvious that the only way to insure the preservation of Lesbian culture and history was to establish an independent archive, governed by Lesbians. With planning underway in 1974, the archive was established in its first physical space in 1976, in the pantry of Joan Nestle's and Deborah Edel's Upper West Side apartment. The Archives was legally incorporated as The Lesbian Herstory Educational Foundation, a non-profit foundation, in 1980. The collection expanded rapidly, along with a group of volunteers. Visitors began streaming through the doors. Now an expanded group of coordinators take care of the archives and have undertaken the purchase of a permanent home in Brooklyn.

A contingent of volunteers and friends march with the Lesbian Herstory Archives banner in every NYC Gay Pride Day. Women from around the Country carry posters and world signs for "Lesbian" in many languages.

Representing a large collection of Lesbian pulp fiction from the 50s, 60s and 70s. Before Stonewall, no dangerous sexual portrayal of the life and relationships of Lesbian lifestyle. Like today's TV, the representations are often bombed and distorted.

Gertrude Stein, Photographer, Collector. The archives has a partial collection of the photos taken in and from studios around the country. She was the of Lesbians.

THE COLLECTION

Archives collects and preserves any materials that are at of the lives and experiences of Lesbians: books, zines, journals, news clippings, bibliographies, e, historical information, tapes, films, diaries, oral ories, poetry and prose, biographies, posters, ographies, notices of events, graphics, and other ythelia and obscure references to our lives. e Archives houses over 10,000 volumes, 12,000 ssays, 200 special collections; 1,400 periodical 1,000 organizational and subject files. chers, working on a wide variety of projects use chives. Some visitors come just to browse and talk r Lesbians, others come to find specific materials ademic research, or images for a film project, or contacts in Asia.

The Archives has a growing collection of Lesbian political and cultural buttons, as well as an extensive T-shirt collection.

Hyacinth, Vicky (1951-1983). This photo of a Spanish Lesbian will be a part of the Archives photo collection.

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LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES

Alice and Sandra in front of a bar in New Orleans in the 70s. This image is part of the Rosie Poole slide show.

HERSTORY OF THE ARCHIVES

The Lesbian Herstory Archives, the largest and oldest Lesbian archive in the world, began in 1973 as an outgrowth of a Lesbian consciousness-raising group at the Gay Academic Union in New York City. The founders were concerned about the failure of mainstream publishers, libraries, archives, and research institutions to value Lesbian culture. It became obvious that the only way to insure the preservation of Lesbian culture and history was to establish an independent archive, governed by Lesbians. With planning underway in 1974, the archive was established in its first physical space in 1976, in the pantry of Joan Nestle's and Deborah Edel's Upper West Side apartment. The Archives was legally incorporated as The Lesbian Herstory Educational Foundation, a non-profit foundation, in 1980. The collection expanded rapidly, along with a group of volunteers. Visitors began streaming through the doors. Now an expanded group of coordinators take care of the archives and have undertaken the purchase of a permanent home in Brooklyn.

A contingent of volunteers and friends march with the Lesbian Herstory Archives banner at every NYC Gay Pride Day. Women from around the country, with pockets and bags sign for "Lesbian" in fancy language.

Lesbian Pulp Fiction: a large collection of Lesbian pulp fiction from the 50s, 60s and 70s. Below (lowered) are examples which provoke one of the two representations of Lesbian lifestyles. Lefty today's pulp, has representations now often limited and distorted.

Grace Gregg, Schomburg Library, Harlem. Grace was a central contributor of the Harlem Renaissance. Her photo is proud the country, the city, by a Lesbian.

Preserving Your Individual & Community Herstory
by Judith Schwarz

THE COLLECTION

Archives collects and preserves any materials that are about the lives and experiences of Lesbians: books, [illegible]ers, journals, news clippings, bibliographies, [illegible], historical information, tapes, films, diaries, oral [illegible]ories, poetry and prose, biographies, posters, [illegible]ographies, notices of events, graphics, and other [illegible]ibelia and obscure references to our lives. [illegible] Archives houses over 10,000 volumes, 12,000 [illegible]graphs, 200 special collections, 1,400 periodical [illegible] 1,000 organizational and subject files. [illegible]chers, working on a wide variety of projects use [illegible]chives. Some visitors come just to browse and talk [illegible] Lesbians, others come to find specific materials [illegible]demic research, or images for a film project, or [illegible] contacts in Asia.

The Archives has a growing collection of Lesbian political and cultural buttons, as well as an extensive button collection.

Hiyamitsu Yoshio (1898-1989-1991) This photo of the Japanese Lesbian artist is part of the Archives photo collection.

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Ruth Ann Lowe, 1966
Photo taken by Ruth Ann Lowe's mother, Mrs. Lowe, in her home in Ashville, Ohio. Ruth Ann Lowe was a student at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, when she was murdered in her dormitory room on the night of November 1, 1966. Her killer was never found.

Ruth Ann Lowe, 1966
Photo taken by Ruth Ann Lowe's mother, Mrs. Lowe, in her home in Ashville, Ohio. Ruth Ann Lowe was a student at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, when she was murdered in her dormitory room on the night of November 1, 1966. Her killer was never found.

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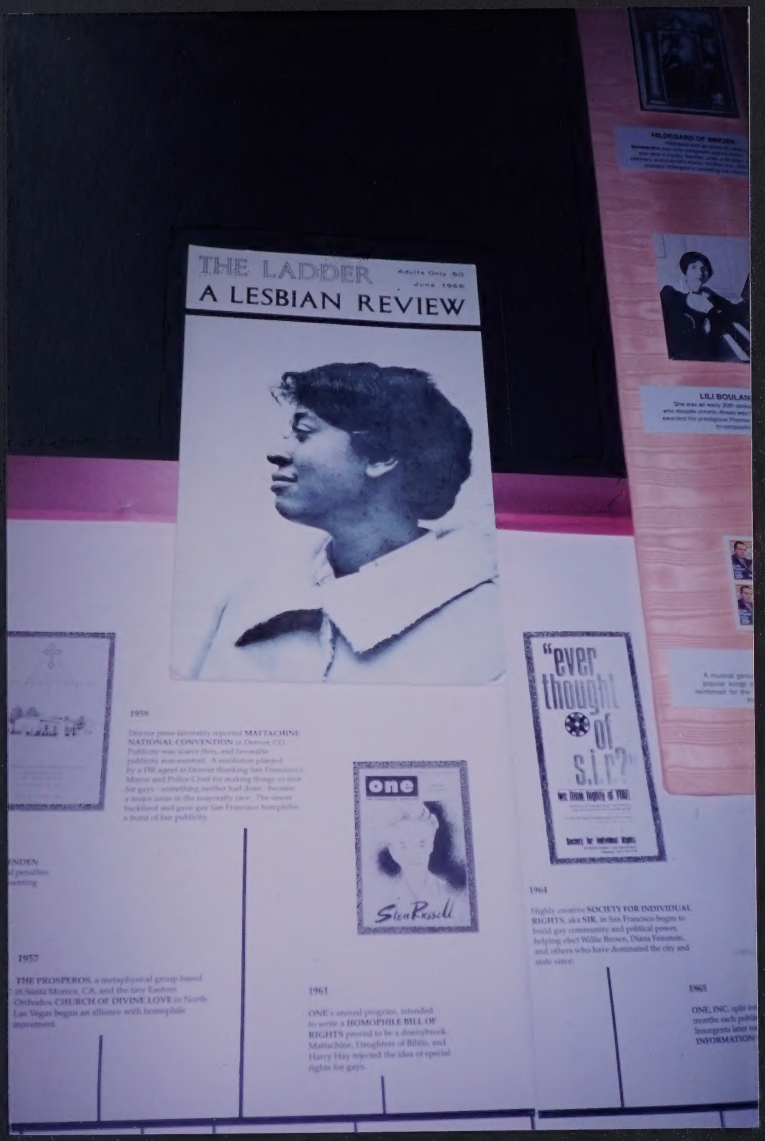
THE LADDER
Adults Only 50
June 1966
A LESBIAN REVIEW
HILDEGARD OF BINGEN
LILI BOULANG
1959
Denver press favorably reported MATTACHINE NATIONAL CONVENTION in Denver, CO. Publicity was scarce then, and favorable publicity non-existent. A resolution planted by a FBI agent at Denver thanking San Francisco's Mayor and Police Chief for making things so nice for gays - something neither had done - became a major issue in the mayoralty race. The smear backfired and gave gay San Francisco homophiles a burst of fair publicity.
one
Sten Russell
"ever thought of s.i.r?"
we think highly of you!
society for individual rights
1964
Highly creative SOCIETY FOR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS, aka SIR, in San Francisco begins to build gay community and political power, helping elect Willie Brown, Diana Feinstein, and others who have dominated the city and state since.
1957
THE PROSPEROS, a metaphysical group based in Santa Monica, CA, and the tiny Eastern Orthodox CHURCH OF DIVINE LOVE in North Las Vegas began an alliance with homophile movement.
1961
ONE's annual program, intended to write a HOMOPHILE BILL OF RIGHTS proved to be a donnybrook. Mattachine, Daughters of Bilitis, and Harry Hay rejected the idea of special rights for gays.
1965
ONE, INC. split so
months each publi
Insurgents later fo
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Chosen Poems- Old and New
Audre Lorde
THE PAINTED BRIDE QUARTERLY
BLACK LESBIANS
MOVEMENT IN BLACK
DEFINING
OUR
STORY
WE
ARE
EVERYWHERE

<No.23A>ANS 22+00 NNNNN-15AU 032

Chosen Poems- Old and New
Audre Lorde
THE PAINTED BRIDE QUARTERLY
BLACK LESBIANS
MOVEMENT IN BLACK
DEFINING
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STORY
WE
ARE
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MOJA: GAY & BLACK
AZALEA

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MOJA: GAY & BLACK
AZALEA

<No.24A>ANS 22+00 NNNNN+07AU 052

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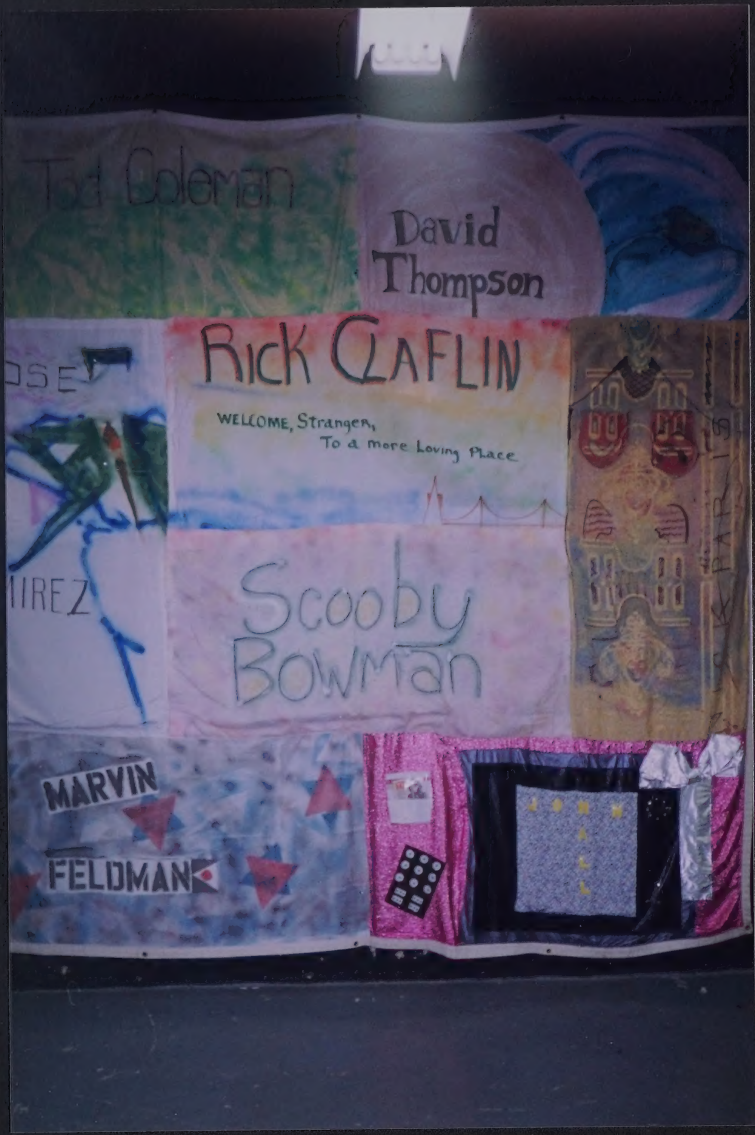
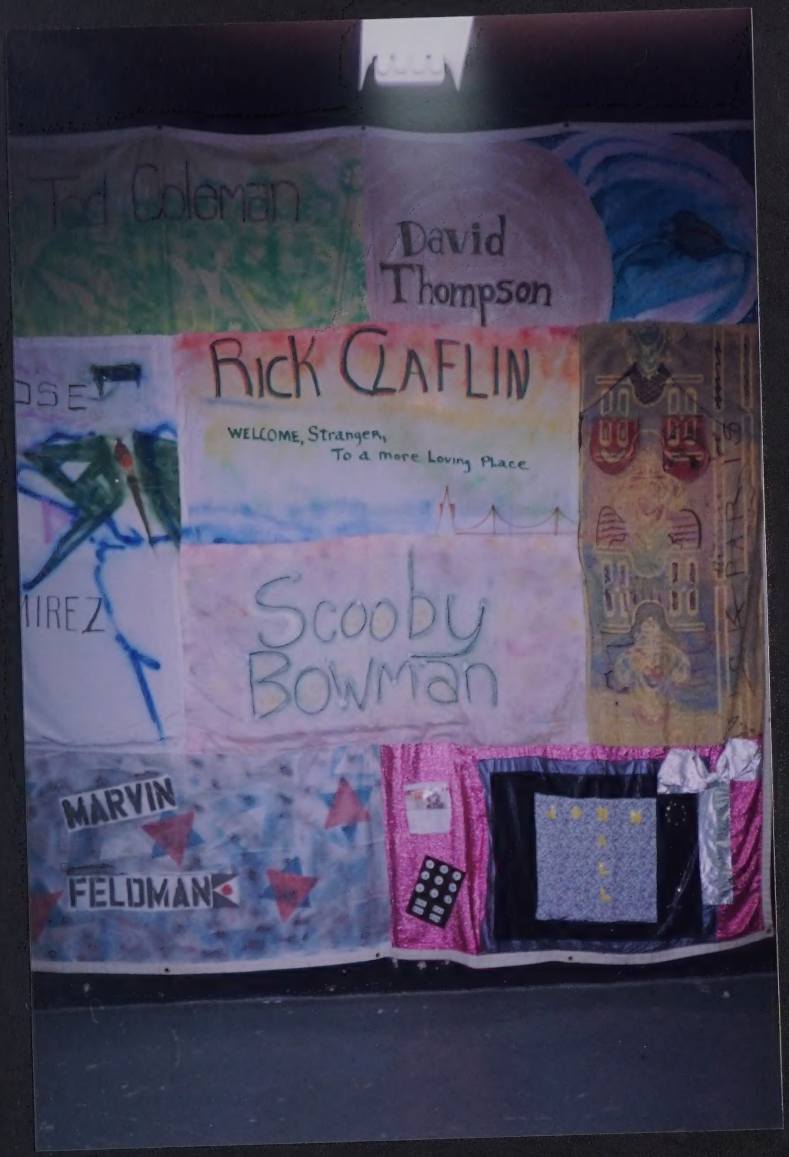

Ted Coleman
David Thompson
Rick Claflin
WELCOME, Stranger,
To a more Loving Place
Scooby Bowman
MARVIN
FELDMAN

<No.31A>ANS 22+00 NNNNN-12AU 052


Ted Coleman
David Thompson
Rick Claflin
WELCOME, Strangers,
To a more Loving Place
Scooby Bowman
MARVIN
FELDMAN

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